equipments by various departments except Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP), a Media Unit under this Ministry. Some financial irregularities were found to be committed by DFP in purchase of Portable Video Projectors (PVPs).

(c) and (d) The supplier of PVPs could not supply the equipments in stipulated time and was given extensions by DFP. DFP did not invoke the penalty clause for the delayed supply of the equipments as per the terms and conditions of the contract and also could not prevent increase in price of some of the PVPs over the quoted price by the supplier on account of rise in customs duty. Departmental Action has been initiated against the then Director General, DFP.

Terrestrial transmission for private players

4119. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to allow terrestrial transmission for the private players;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY). (a) to (c) Terrestrial television transmission in the country is currently being done by Prasar Bharati, the Public Service Broadcaster. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Consultation Paper on "Issues relating to private terrestrial television broadcasting services". TRAI has not formulated its recommendations so far. The Government will take a view only after TRAI's recommendations are received.

Captive TV Channels and Community Radio Station Scheme

4120. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by captive TV Channel and Community Radio Station Scheme started at the beginning of Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of cities/towns covered by captive TV Channels and Community Radio Station in various States?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government doesn't have any scheme titled Captive TV channel in the Tenth Plan.

As far the Community Radio Station Scheme is concerned, the Government approved a scheme for the grant of licenses to well established educational institutions on 18th December 2002. So far, Letters of Intent to 30 educational institutions have been issued and 20 of them have signed License Agreement for setting up Community Radio Stations. The details of cities/towns in various States where Community Radio Stations have been set up by educational institutions are following:

Tamil Nadu—Chennai and Erode

Pondicherry

Maharashtra—Baramati (Pune)

Rajasthan—Jaipur

Uttar Pradesh—Varanasi

News and current affairs on private FM Radio

4121. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are not open to the idea of allowing news and current affairs on the private FM Radio;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had asked to a revenue share model for the private FM Radio instead of the existing license fee regime which made the business unsustainable; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has made recommendations for Phase-II of private FM